GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1335
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASES
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of animals have died of foot and mouth diseases in various States during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to protect the animals from the said diseases;

(d) whether the Government is conducting any research in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a)&(b): No Sir. However, Foot and Mouth Disease is reported sporadically in the country and death due to this disease is negligible. The mortality due to this disease during 2004, 2005 and 2006 are 294, 2797 and 428 respectively. The State-wise figures are at Annexure.

(c): To protect animals from Foot and Mouth Disease, the Union Government is implementing an intensive Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP) in 54 specified districts of the country. Vaccination against FMD in remaining areas is undertaken by States under another programme called Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD).

(d)&(e): Yes, Sir. The research programmes on epidemiology including molecular epidemiology, antigenic analysis and assessment of immune status in different livestock in the country is being carried out by Project Directorate on Foot and Mouth Diseases (PD-FMD) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The details of the outcome are as follows:-

* Uniform diagnosis of FMD using sandwich Enzyme Linked Immuno-Sorbent Assay (ELISA) for type identification has resulted into specificity, reliability and uniformity in the diagnosis of the disease.

* Molecular epidemiological studies revealed endemicity of the distribution of different antigenic serotypes and also the antigenecity.

Genotype differentiating ELISA and RT-PCR has been developed to distinguish between genotypes VI and VII of serotype A.